

Application No.: 10/788,913
Response dated: October 11, 2005
Reply to Office action dated: July 12, 2005

REMARKS

The above amendment is made in response to the Office action of July 12, 2005. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowability of claims 10-17 and respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration in view of the above amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claims 6 and 18 have been canceled, without prejudice, and claims 3 and 7 have been amended. Therefore, claims 1-5 and 7-17 are pending in the present application. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

Specification Objection

The abstract of the disclosure stands objected to for informalities. In particular, the Examiner has stated that the phrase "disclosed herein is" on page 28, line 1, of the disclosure can be implied, and therefore, should be avoided. Applicants respectfully delete the phrase "disclosed herein is" and construct the remaining sentence into two separate sentences. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this objection.

Claim Objections

Claims 3 and 7 stand objected to for informalities. In particular, the Examiner has stated that the element "writing the data which is stored in the second sense amplifier in the step b)" of claim 3 is unclear. Applicants respectfully replace the phrase "writing the data which is stored in the second sense amplifier in the step b)" with "writing the data which is stored in the first sense amplifier in the step c)".

Also, the Examiner has stated that the element "the sense amplifier outside the memory block" lacks antecedent basis, because "a sense amplifier of the memory block" in line 2 of claim 7 is not outside the memory block. Applicants respectfully replace the element "the sense amplifier" in line 4 of claim 7 with the phrase "a sense amplifier". Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw these objections.

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Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 6 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Lee (U.S. Patent Application No. 6,392,958) in view of Batson et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0067632) for the reasons indicated on pages 3–4 of the Office Action. Applicants respectfully cancel claims 6 and 18 without prejudice, and therefore, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is now moot.

Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1–9 and 18 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 3–5 of copending application U.S. Patent Application No. 10/810,749. The Examiner states that a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome these rejections.

Applicants respectfully submit herewith a terminal disclaimer. Applicants request entry of this terminal disclaimer. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Application No.: 10/788,913
Response dated: October 11, 2005
Reply to Office action dated: July 12, 1005

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicants' attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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